



Chapter 0228's 70th Anniversary
February 16, 2023
By James Ploen

Chapter 228 was organized on October 29, 1952, and received its charter on February 6, 1953. There were 31 chapter members, 3 of which were ladies. For our Internal Revenue people, one of the 31 Charter members was Assistant Collector of Internal Revenue, Fred S. Parsons (today he would be classified as a Director instead of Collector).

There were 18 chapters in Texas when several delegates met in Fort Worth on August 22, 1953, to organize the Texas Federation (third NARFE Federation). The Federation was chartered on December 29, 1953 (almost 11 months after our Chapter). At that time, the organization was titled National Association of Retired Civil Employees. The original dues were \$1.00 and delegate costs to attend the State convention in Fort Worth were \$8.82. Times have changed.

Beginning in 1953 to 1958 the Chapter met in the Austin City Library. Then in 1958 they moved to the Congress Avenue Baptist Church on South Congress Avenue and met there until April 1978. Followed by a move to the brand-new Senior Activity Center at 29th St. and North Lamar where they met from 1978 to December 1995. In January 1996 to the present time, we meet at the South Austin Senior Center, 3911 Manchaca Rd. During Covid 19, the Senior Center was closed so we met at the La Quinta Inn on South MoPac. Our oldest members said that a hand vote was done in 1995 to move to the South Austin Senior Center as a majority of the NARFE members were living in South Austin.

The Chapter had and still has a policy of not meeting in July and August. In the early years the June meetings were usually picnics at Barton Springs, Pease Park, or Zilker Park Clubhouse. We now hold a picnic indoors at the South Austin Senior Center building.

The Chapter has had 38 different presidents during its existence. Attached is a list by year and name. Our current president is James Ploen and the longest serving President.

The Chapter was presented with a 70th Anniversary Award at its February 6 meeting. The Award was presented by **Dora Benavides, South Area VP, and Dorothy Creswell, DR 15.**



Jim Ploen, Dora Benavides and Dorothy Creswell.



NARFE BLUEBONNET CHAPTER 0228

CHARTER DATE FEBRUARY 6, 1953

PRESIDENTS

		Death Date
1953-1979	25 different persons served as President, one repeat. 1968 first woman President, Era Holder	
1980-1981	Mildred W Layne	2/3/2001
1982	Jackie Berry	?
1983-1984	Mildred W Layne	2/3/2001
1985-1986	Ferol Polley	4/18/2001
1987-1988	Orville J Berry	2/2/2012
1989-1990	Ferol Polley	4/18/2001
1991-1992	Ted Vissers	7/30/2015
1993-1994	Ferol Polley	4/18/2012
1995	Florine Kingsley	10/24/2013
1996	Marvin Philipus	9/26/2016
1997-2002	Marge Ferrell	
2003-2008	Al Prewitt	7/24/2019
2009-Present	James Ploen (longest serving President)	